

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method and apparatus for utilizing multiple microcode flow synonyms or hardware flow synonyms for an instruction is disclosed. In one embodiment, a microcode synonym is created for execution on  
5 two or more execution units of differing types. One microcode synonym may be chosen for execution depending upon the availability status of the execution units. In another embodiment, several microcode synonyms may be chosen for execution. The results of the first microcode synonym to complete execution may be retired. If the results  
10 of execution of two microcode synonyms do not match, a fault exception may be raised.